

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

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R 261400Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7806

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 657

LIMDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR SHERER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, CZ, US, GW

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AT GENSCHER DEPARTURE

1. AIRPORT DEPARTURE CEREMONY FOR FRG FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER MARCH 26 PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS GENSCHER'S
VISIT IN PRELIMINARY WAY AND TO HAVE SHORT CHAT WITH
FOREIGN MINISTER. (CEREMONY WAS ENLIVENED BY CHIEF OF
PROTOCOL'S SLIP OF THE TONGUE WHEN HE INTRODUCED US
CHARGE AS "CHARGE OF THE USSR." AMID GENERAL LAUGHTER
GENSCHER COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS REAL COEXISTENCE.)

2. FRG AMBASSADOR RITZEL IS BRIEFING HIS NATO COLLEAGUES
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ON VISIT MARCH 27, BUT IN GENERAL THE GERMANS SEEMED WELL

PLEASED. (THEIR EARLIER FEARS THAT WORSENING FRG-POLISH RELATIONS WOULD PUT A CHILL ON THIS VISIT DID NOT EVENTUATE, THEY SAID, AND RITZEL SAID IN FACT HE HAD SEEN AN UPTURN IN BONN-WARSAW OUTLOOK WITHIN THE PAST WEEK OR SO.) IN CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE AND DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER RUZEK, VON WELL OF FRG FOREIGN OFFICE SAID TALKS HAD GONE WELL AND PERHAPS WOULD BE FIRST OF A REGULAR SERIES. RUZEK ADDED THAT FRG-CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS WERE DEVELOPING CALMLY AND WITHOUT HASTE, BUT ON A SOUND FOUNDATION.

3. MOST SENSITIVE QUESTION WAS HUMANITARIAN ISSUES, MAINLY GERMAN EMIGRATION. FRIENDS AT GERMAN EMASSY SAY THAT ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN AT HIGH LEVEL THAT SOME MOVEMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE ON THIS MATTER BEFORE END OF YEAR. (WHETHER HIGH LEVEL WAS HUSAK, WE DO NOT KNOW. GENSCHER SAW HIM IN HIS PARTY CAPACITY, UNACCOMPANIED BY GERMAN AMBASSADOR. RUDE PROVO FRONTATED PHOTO OF HUSAK, GENSCHER AND FORMIN CHNOUPEK.) CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TOLD US RUZEK HAD ALSO TOLD HIM SOME MOVEMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE RE CANADIAN DIVIDED FAMILIES CASES THIS YEAR, AND UK AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD HEARD SIMILAR REPORTS OF ASSURANCES FROM OTHER AMBASSADORS.

4. FOREIGN MINISTER, IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE, INQUIRED, AS HE USUALLY DOES, IF THERE WAS ANY NEWS FROM WASHINGTON ON THE CLAIMS FRONT. HE WENT ON TO CALL ATTENTION TO STROUGAL SPEECH MARCH 25 IN FEDERAL ASSEMBLY (SEPTTEL), NOTING THAT HE THOUGHT IT WAS A REASONED AND MODERATE STATEMENT ABOUT US-CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS. CHARGE REPLIED THAT WE HAD ALSO FOUND IT MODERATE AND POSITIVE IN TONE. CHNOUPEK SAID THAT HE HAD HAD A HAND IN EDITING IT, AND HE THOUGH THE FINAL VERSION WAS INDEED POSITIVE. CHARGE MENTIONED CONVERSATION WITH ZANTOVSKY (HEAD SIXTH DEPARTMENT) MARCH 25 RE COMMEMORATION OF 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA (SEPTAL NOTAL), AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR HELPFUL ATTITUDE BEING TAKEN BY MFA. COMING BACK TO OVERALL SITUATION, CHNOUPEK SAID CZECHOSLOVAKIA STILL VERY INTERESTED IN US RELATIONSHIP, AND CONCLUDED: "WE ARE WAITING."
PERRY

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